



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department for the Aging

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging
Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

DATE: November 16, 2004

SUBJECT: National Family Caregiver Support Month

Administration on Aging

Our nation is celebrating National Family Caregivers Month this November as an opportunity to honor the contributions of family caregivers. These individuals take on the enormous responsibility of caring for loved ones who are aging, chronically ill, or disabled.

George W. Bush, the President of the United States has issued a White House Proclamation for National Family Caregivers Month, 2004 as part of this celebration.

To view this White House Proclamation visit:
www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2004/11/20041104-13.html.

To find out more about how the U.S. Administration on Aging is celebrating National Family Caregivers Month visit: www.aoa.gov.

PSA 2 Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens, Inc.

PSA 2 is providing family caregivers with an informational gift bag to celebrate National Family Caregiver Support Month. Jane Tickle, AASC Director of Day Care Services, spoke on local radio, WLRV, about National Family Caregiver Month and the support services that PSA 2 has for family caregivers.

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100, Richmond, Virginia 23229
Toll-Free: 1-800-552-3402 (Voice/TTY) • Phone: 804-662-9333 • Fax: 804-662-9354
E-mail: aging@vda.virginia.gov • Web Site: www.vda.virginia.gov

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
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FROM: Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

DATE: November 16, 2004

SUBJECT: Caregiver Program Grants

**Johnson & Johnson/Rosalynn Carter Institute Caregivers Program
Hurricane Relief Grant**

The Johnson & Johnson/Rosalynn Carter Institute Caregivers Program is pleased to announce the availability of grants to address family caregiving needs stemming from the hurricanes of 2004. These funds are limited and funding requests will be considered as they are received. The total amount available for award is \$100,000 and grant awards will range from \$1,000 to \$10,000. For more information visit:

<http://www.rosalynncarter.org/>
Laura J. Bauer, Project Director
J&J/RCI Caregivers Program
Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving

PSA 9 Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board

The Rappahannock Rapidan Elder Care Coalition, a partnership of local health, human service, and consumer organizations, has been selected from a field of 486 applicants nationwide to receive a \$150,000 grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation through its *Community Partnerships for Older Adults* (CPOA) program. Over the next 18 months, the Coalition will be working to develop plans for improving long term care and supportive services systems that would respond to the current and future needs of at-risk older adults in Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock counties.

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The Elder Care Coalition has established three goals for its work in the coming year:

- Local communities will have agreed-upon priorities and implementation plans to assure that **at-risk elders and their families** will have access to a choice of long term care services
- Elders/families will have information needed to make personal choices about long term care, and opportunities to participate in community planning that affects them
- Policy makers, business leaders, and the general citizenry will be aware of elders needs and the impact of demographic trends, will be positioned to make informed decisions about long term care system development, and will consider the needs, strengths and preferences of elders and their families in all local planning

The Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board and Area Agency on Aging is the lead agency for Coalition and for the grant activities. Other Coalition partner organizations include interagency teams from each of the five counties, Culpeper Regional Hospital, Fauquier Hospital, the five local departments of social services, the Piedmont United Way, the Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission, the Health Department, Family Care, Hospice of the Rapidan, Disability Services Boards, assisted living and nursing facilities, the Alzheimers Association, local ministers, Virginia Cooperative Extension service, and consumer organizations (Aging Advisory Council, AARP, TRIAD).

As one of the eleven communities selected as a Community Partnerships grantee, the Elder Care Coalition will also have the opportunity at the end of the 18 months to compete for a four-year, \$750,000 implementation grant to actually create the activities described in their plans and pursue additional resources to sustain them.

For further information on this program, see the attached press release.

For More Information, Contact:
Sallie Morgan, 540-825-3100, ext. 3437, smorgan@rrcsb.org

ELDER CARE COALITION AWARDED NATIONAL GRANT TO IMPROVE LOCAL SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS

Rappahannock Rapidan Elder Care Coalition will work to improve long term care and supportive services systems

Culpeper, VA, November 9, 2004 – The Rappahannock Rapidan Elder Care Coalition, a partnership of local health, human service, and consumer organizations, has been selected from a field of 486 applicants nationwide to receive a \$150,000 grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation through its *Community Partnerships for Older Adults* (CPOA) program. Over the next 18 months, the Coalition will be working to develop plans for improving long term care and supportive services systems that would respond to the current and future needs of at-risk older adults in Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock counties.

As one of the eleven communities selected as a Community Partnerships grantee, the Elder Care Coalition will also have the opportunity at the end of the 18 months to compete for a four-year, \$750,000 implementation grant to actually create the activities described in their plans and pursue additional resources to sustain them.

“This is a very exciting opportunity for our communities,” says project director Sallie Morgan, spokesperson for the Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board and Area Agency on Aging, the lead agency for the Coalition. “The Community Partnerships grant will give us the resources to take a serious look at the growth of the elder population in our region and the implications for everyone, from older adults and families to policy makers and service providers, especially around the need for long term care services to support frail elders.”

Morgan notes that over the next decade, as baby boomers mature and retirees move into our area, the population age 60 and over in this five county area is expected to more than double by the year 2020, in contrast to a projected growth rate of 35 % for the overall population.

Such significant shifts in the age and shape of our local population raise many questions about what supports will be needed by older individuals and their families, whether services will be available when needed, and what our communities can be doing now to make it easier for elders to stay in their own homes as long as desired.

In response to such concerns, twenty-eight organizations from Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock counties have joined forces to form the Rappahannock Rapidan Elder Care Coalition, which has conducted an extensive needs assessment of persons 60 and over in the region, and now, as a Community Partnerships for Older Adults grant recipient, is ready to begin making specific plans for long term care system change and service expansion.

The Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board and Area Agency on Aging is the lead agency for Coalition and for the grant activities. Other Coalition partner organizations include interagency teams from each of the five counties, Culpeper Regional Hospital, Fauquier Hospital, the five local departments of social services, the Piedmont United Way, the Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission, the Health Department, Family Care, Hospice of the Rapidan, Disability Services Boards, assisted living and nursing facilities, the Alzheimer=s Association, local ministers, Virginia Cooperative Extension service, and consumer organizations (Aging Advisory Council, AARP, TRIAD).

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The project will engage a broad spectrum of local citizens and policy-makers in each county to establish local priorities. At the same time a number of regional workgroups will develop plans for creating or expanding services in the following areas: community-based supports (e.g. adult day care, in-home care), health (prevention and management of chronic conditions), housing, transportation, long term care workforce development, and standards for quality of care. Local priorities and regional workgroup plans will be consolidated in a strategic plan, which will then be used to apply for funds to put the plans into action.

“It’s a great advantage to our region to be part of national effort like the Community Partnerships program, which will enable us to build on our own experience, share and learn from other communities, and help shape state and national policy as solutions are developed and implemented for the future,” says Cathy Zielinski, who has been hired as the local Community Partnerships Project Coordinator.

“There is no quick fix for improving the current long term care system,” said Jane Isaacs Lowe, Ph.D., senior program officer at The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. “It takes the coordinated planning and effort of a whole community to change the way long term care is viewed and provided.”

“A national renaissance of community involvement is underway to improve long term care and supportive services systems, and our grantees are at the forefront,” said Elise J. Bolda, national program director. “They understand the importance of taking action, and that communities can develop the solutions to improve the lives of older adults.”

The CPOA projects focus on two groups of older Americans: those 60 years of age or older who are at increased risk of disability because of poverty, race or ethnicity, chronic illness, or advanced age; and older adults with physical or cognitive impairments who require long term care and supportive services.

The projects seek to:

- educate the community that long term care begins at home and in the community with individuals and their families

- work together with older adults to develop community-wide long term care solutions
- build bridges between the long term care options that exist today and those of the future
- learn locally from their community and share nationally with others to develop solutions for long term care and supportive services systems.

The *Community Partnerships for Older Adults* program is based at the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service. The Duke University Long Term Care Resources Program provides technical assistance for the program, under the direction of Beverly S. Patnaik. More information about the *Community Partnerships for Older Adults* program is available on the program's Web site at:

<http://partnershipsforolderadults.org>

Community Partnerships for Older Adults, a national program of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, fosters community partnerships to improve long term care and supportive services systems to meet the current and future needs of older adults.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, based in Princeton, N.J., is the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care. It concentrates its grantmaking in four goal areas: to assure that all Americans have access to quality health care at reasonable cost; to improve the quality of care and support for people with chronic health conditions; to promote healthy communities and lifestyles; and to reduce the personal, social and economic harm caused by substance abuse - tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs.

The University of Southern Maine's Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service educates future leaders, broadens civic participation, and conducts leading research in: health policy, child & family policy, community & economic development, and public sector innovation. The Muskie School's three nationally recognized policy institutes receive more than \$20 million annually to conduct research projects and public service activities in every county of Maine and every state across the nation. The Muskie School is based in Portland and Augusta, Maine.